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SALARIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HEARINGS

BEFORE

**THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

SIXTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS

FOURTH SESSION

—
FEBRUARY 6, 1923
—

Series KK



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1923

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
SIXTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS, FOURTH SESSION.

GILBERT N. HAUGEN, Iowa, *Chairman*.

JAMES C. McLAUGHLIN, Michigan.

CHARLES B. WARD, New York.

FRED S. PURNELL, Indiana.

EDWARD VOIGT, Wisconsin.

M. O. McLAUGHLIN, Nebraska.

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DAVID H. KINCHELOE, Kentucky.

MARVIN JONES, Texas.

PETER G. TEN EYCK, New York.

L. G. HAUGEN, *Clerk*.



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SALARIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Tuesday, February 6, 1923.

The committee met at 10 o'clock a. m., Hon. Gilbert N. Haugen (chairman) presiding.

There were present: Mr. Haugen, Mr. McLaughlin, of Michigan, Mr. Purnell, Mr. Voigt, Mr. Tinch, Mr. Williams, Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Hays, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gerner, Mr. Clague, Mr. Jacobson, Mr. Aswell, Mr. Kincheloe, and Mr. Jones.

STATEMENT OF HON. HENRY C. WALLACE, SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, we will be pleased to hear from you.

Secretary WALLACE. As I understand it, you asked me to come over here on the salary matter, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; we are in hopes that we may be able to bring that up very soon.

Secretary WALLACE. Of course, the committee is familiar with our difficulties in that situation. I was rather concerned when the statement was made by two or three members that the bill which you had reported was entirely satisfactory to us, because I had not meant to give anyone that impression and tried to correct it once previously.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, it is possible there is some misunderstanding about that. As I stated on the floor and as printed in the record January 26, Doctor Ball appeared before this committee and indicated just what was desired and just what he suggested was written into the bill, with the exception of adding Mr. Ball himself to the list. The salaries fixed and the numbers were exactly as suggested by Mr. Ball, and of course we assumed that he was speaking for the department, and I take it that these gentlemen assumed that that came direct from you, and was so understood.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. I was one of these who spoke on the floor to that effect, Mr. Secretary, and evidently I was wrong about it, but that was my understanding at the time.

Secretary WALLACE. Well, I am quite sure that any of you who had that impression came by it honestly, as we might say, but that bill never was, in my opinion, adequate to meet our situation, and I think some time last March, when Mr. Kincheloe said something to the same effect, I wrote him, calling attention to the situation.

Mr. KINCHELOE. I made that statement based on the situation which has just been stated. I remember very well hearing all your statement, and of course I do not remember that you went into the details and itemized exactly just what you needed in the different classes, but as the chairman has just said, the other gentleman was here and we really consulted with him and talked with him about the matter, and it was absolutely satisfactory, and we had it by innuendo, if not by direct statement from him, that it was perfectly agreeable to the Department of Agriculture.

Secretary WALLACE. Well, it is just one of those misunderstandings that sometimes happen.

The CHAIRMAN. The list was prepared by him and brought in and presented to the committee, and inserted in the bill exactly as he suggested, but through his modesty he did not make any suggestion about his own salary, and we thought it nothing but fair to add his salary and that was the only change made not suggested by him.

Secretary WALLACE. It is just one of those misunderstandings that sometimes happen no matter what we try to do, but I want to clear it up because it is altogether the most important matter having to do with the department, and has been for a year.

I can not express to you the helpful effect of the measure which went into the bill last year authorizing these increases in the maximum pay of scientific men. It was not the money we used. We used less than \$20,000 under those increases during the

year; but that gave notice all down the line that the opportunities for men to advance were there.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. The possibility of a higher salary is always an incentive and encouragement.

Secretary WALLACE. That is the point exactly. In thinking about the matter, the disposition is to think about the salaries, but that is not where the most good comes. The good is the effect upon these young scientific men who are coming up and getting now from \$2,000 to \$3,500. Under the situation which existed up until a year ago in July, they had notice that the limit which they might hope to reach was \$4,500 only. The result was that when these young men got an opportunity to go out with a commercial enterprise, or with a college, or with a university, at an advance in salary, and where the scale of salaries was almost twice as high as here, they just kept dropping out, and the result was that we were drying up at the source the stream which must furnish us our scientific men for the future.

Mr. ASWELL. Will \$6,500 hold them?

Secretary WALLACE. I have not been able to get a complete list of our losses of scientific men in the past year, but they are very much less than before. Now, you ask me if \$6,500 will hold them. We might as well admit frankly that the Department of Agriculture, or no other governmental agency, can compete with commercial enterprises in the matter of dollars. We can not hope to do that.

Mr. PURNELL. What do these commercial enterprises pay?

Secretary WALLACE. Oh, we have had men go out at all the way from \$7,500 up to as high as \$20,000, and we have had one man go out at \$25,000, and large numbers of them at ten or twelve or fifteen thousand dollars.

Mr. ASWELL. The average salary paid in universities for this type of scientist is \$7,500, and in some instances a home is furnished in addition.

Secretary WALLACE. Yes.

Mr. KINCHELOE. I want to say further, Mr. Secretary, that so far as my purpose in fighting this Senate amendment on the Agricultural appropriation bill is concerned, I have no doubt that the salaries set out there for the year 1924 were meritorious. That was not my position, but I was getting sick and tired, and I am still tired, of the Committee on Agriculture tacking on legislation in the Senate that is permanent legislation when this committee here is ready, and I am sure every member is anxious, to do everything he can to help the Department of Agriculture, and that was my position in the matter then and it is my position now.

Secretary WALLACE. I understand that, and I do not think I misjudged the position of any of you men. I know you are all in thorough sympathy with the work of the department.

Mr. KINCHELOE. I will say to you frankly that this bill right here, or one of a similar character, in my opinion is the most important that this committee can hope to pass this Congress.

Mr. ASWELL. How many places do you need at \$6,500 or \$7,500? In other words, how many positions in the department justify or demand that type of scientist.

Secretary WALLACE. There are quite a number but I have not any ambitious plan of advancing a lot of men up to that maximum. I am quite willing to say to you that if you take Mr. McLaughlin's suggestion, with the limitation you have in the bill, it is agreed that that will be satisfactory to us. That will meet our needs now and I think will meet the needs of the next year.

Mr. ASWELL. A temporary appropriation does not attract a decent scientist or where it is only one year's employment.

Secretary WALLACE. Oh, we have got to have this permanently. Let me tell you what happened in reference to this matter: We have quite a number of vacancies, or prospective vacancies, which require men of distinct scientific attainments. Doctor Ball has been scouting the country to find men capable of filling those positions. For example, take our chief animal husbandryman. We have not been able to fill that position with a man we felt would meet the situation. Just a week or two weeks before this maximum salary in this bill went out on a point of order in the House, he had completed arrangements, after negotiating, I suppose, for three months, with the one man in the country we thought was the most outstanding man for that place. This bill then came up in the House and that provision went out on a point of order, and at once served notice upon him that the salary we had agreed to pay we might not be able to pay the next year, and he was the first man we were going to pay \$6,500.

Mr. ASWELL. Did he accept under those conditions?

Secretary WALLACE. I do not know what that situation is now. We assured him we felt we could get that cleared up. Doctor Ball went to Boston to a meeting of agricultural scientists and while there met four men from different parts of the country whom he had been trying to get into different positions in our department, and whom

he had failed to get up to that time. He got them together, and as result of that the four of them agreed that each would come if all would come. They were four men in related sciences who could see an opportunity for themselves if they could come here together. With this uncertainty as to salary coming up, I do not know what that situation is going to be. I am hoping it will be straightened out now, but when they saw that that maximum could go out on a point of order, it at once raised the question as to what we could do the next year. They say, "Why, yes; you can pay us this much now, but what about next year? We can not afford to go down there and move our families and get adjusted to our new work and then find next year that your salary agreement with us can not be kept." So that it is a matter of vital importance that we get this settled as a permanent thing and be able to deal with these men in a businesslike way.

Mr. KINCHELOE. Mr. Secretary, I do not want to destroy the continuity of your statement, but have you the bill before you that we reported out, H. R. 10819?

Secretary WALLACE. Yes.

Mr. KINCHELOE. I do not want to interfere with your statement, but so far as I am concerned, when it suits you, I would like for you to go through the bill and suggest what amendments you would like to have made.

Secretary WALLACE. I have done that in the statement I have before me.

The CHAIRMAN. It has been suggested that the Secretary has to attend Cabinet meeting this morning and would prefer to conclude his statement first.

Secretary WALLACE. Very briefly, I have drawn up the changes I think ought to be made in this bill. I think Mr. McLaughlin, in the course of the discussion on the floor, made a suggestion which would be entirely satisfactory to us, and I have included that in the following suggestion:

"That the maximum salary per annum of any scientific investigator or employee engaged in scientific work and paid from the general appropriations of the Department of Agriculture shall not exceed \$6,500: *Provided*, That no salary shall be paid under this paragraph at a rate per annum in excess of \$5,000 except the following: Not more than 12 in excess of \$5,000 but not in excess of \$5,500 each, and not more than 5 in excess of \$5,500 each."

The CHAIRMAN. That would mean not more than 12 in excess of \$5,000 and not more than \$5,500, and not more than 5 in excess of \$5,500.

Secretary WALLACE. Yes; that is the suggestion made by Mr. McLaughlin. The number is subject to change each year, and that is quite satisfactory. I would welcome the opportunity to come before this committee every year and explain that.

Mr. KINCHELOE. That is what is in the Agricultural appropriation bill for the year 1924.

Secretary WALLACE. That is the essence of what is in there.

Mr. ASWELL. Do you think \$6,500 is as high as you ought to go in the department?

Secretary WALLACE. No; I wish we could have the privilege of paying a higher salary to some men.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, if we amend this bill in line 9 and make it read "twelve" where the bill provides for five in excess of \$5,000 but not in excess of \$5,500 each, would that cover your suggestion?

Secretary WALLACE. My suggestion is on page 1—strike out the matter on lines 3 to 13, inclusive, and on page 2, lines 1 to 10, inclusive, and substitute in lieu thereof the following—the paragraph which I have just read would be a substitute for those lines.

Mr. ASWELL. May I ask you one question?

Secretary WALLACE. Yes, sir.

Mr. ASWELL. If you are authorized to pay \$7,500 in two or three places in the Department, would that carry with it the probability that you would immediately pay \$7,500 just because you were authorized to pay it?

Secretary WALLACE. I have not paid \$6,500 in any of these positions for the past year. I have not used any of that \$6,500 maximum even.

Mr. ASWELL. And it would not necessarily follow that you would immediately pay that salary?

Secretary WALLACE. No; I have not any intention of doing anything of that kind.

Mr. ASWELL. I think you ought to have some latitude in those matters.

Secretary WALLACE. All I ask is that when I find the right man for a particular place that I may be able to meet the situation with a salary that will attract him here.

Mr. ASWELL. Do you not need some \$7,500 men?

Secretary WALLACE. I would like very much to have it. It is just simply a question of what we can get there.

Mr. KINCHELOE. I would like to get your amendment straight. You strike out the matter on lines 3 to 13, inclusive.

The CHAIRMAN. Then it would read: "Not more than twelve in excess of \$5,000 but not in excess of \$5,500 each, and not more than five in excess of \$5,500 each."

Mr. JONES. Suppose you read it so the entire committee can get it and we can make the change in the bill we have before us.

Secretary WALLACE. The proviso is:

"Provided, That no salary shall be paid under this paragraph at a rate per annum in excess of \$5,000 except the following: Not more than twelve in excess of \$5,000 but not in excess of \$5,500 each, and not more than five in excess of \$5,500 each."

You understand that authorizes us to pay as many as five up to \$6,500 and it authorizes us to pay as many as 12 up to \$5,500.

Mr. KINCHELOE. Would not that give you the right, in your discretion to employ five at any salary?

Secretary WALLACE. Up to \$6,500.

Mr. KINCHELOE. It does not say so, does it?

Secretary WALLACE. You see the limit is above there.

Mr. TINCER. The first part of the bill takes care of the \$6,500.

Secretary WALLACE. The limit is made \$6,500, and then you allow us to pay 12 up to \$5,500 and to pay 5, in addition to the 12, up to \$6,500. That is what it means.

Now, in the second section with regard to these statutory salaries, I am very anxious that the number of those should be increased over those you have in your bill, and here is what I have suggested: The present salary of the Assistant Secretary is \$5,000, and I think that should be raised to \$7,500, and then the director of scientific work, the director of regulatory work, the director of the extension service and the solicitor all should be paid \$6,500 instead of \$5,000, and the Chief of the Weather Bureau \$6,000, which was the salary he formerly got, but which for some reason was reduced some years ago. Then the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, of Plant Industry, of the Forest Service, of Chemistry, of Agricultural Economics, of Public Roads, and of Entomology, should be \$6,500, the Chief of the Bureau of Soils, \$5,500, Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, \$6,000, and the librarian, \$3,600.

(The statement referred to by the Secretary follows:)

Position.	Present salary.	Proposed.
Assistant Secretary.....	\$5,000	\$7,500
Director of scientific work.....	5,000	6,500
Director of regulatory work.....	5,000	6,500
Director of extension service.....	5,000	6,500
Solicitor.....	5,000	6,500
Chief of Weather Bureau.....	5,000	6,000
Chief of Bureau of Animal Industry.....	5,000	6,500
Chief of Bureau of Plant Industry.....	5,000	6,500
Forester.....	5,000	6,500
Chief of Bureau of Chemistry.....	5,000	6,500
Chief of Bureau of Agricultural Economics.....	5,000	6,500
Chief of Bureau of Public Roads.....	6,000	6,500
Chief of Bureau of Entomology.....	5,000	6,500
Chief of Bureau of Soils.....	4,000	5,500
Chief of Bureau of Biological Survey.....	4,000	6,000
Librarian.....	2,000	3,600

Mr. KINCHELOE. Mr. Secretary, in view of the fact that some questions may be asked on the floor of the House, how would these salaries compare with similar salaries paid for the same kind of work in other departments of the Government?

Secretary WALLACE. Taking the Assistant Secretary first, there is one assistant secretary getting \$10,000 and two others getting \$7,500.

Mr. KINCHELOE. In what department?

Secretary WALLACE. The Assistant Secretary in the War Department gets \$10,000 and in the State and Treasury Departments \$7,500 each.

Mr. GERNERD. Why should the Assistant Secretary of War get \$10,000?

Secretary WALLACE. I was under the impression that it was in the Treasury Department that the Assistant Secretary got \$10,000 instead of the War Department, and I am inclined to think that that is right.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. Mr. Secretary, if it will not interrupt you, let me ask you a question. Was there not some difficulty in securing the Chief of the Bureau of Roads.

Secretary WALLACE. You made a special act to take care of that. You increased that to \$6,000, and he is now getting \$6,000.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. I thought it was higher than that.

Secretary WALLACE. No.

The CHAIRMAN. In the list in the bill we have the Chief of the Division of Accounts and Disbursements at \$4,000. I think that was a misprint. I think that should have been more than \$4,000.

Secretary WALLACE. I think there was a misunderstanding on the part of the committee. You were under the impression he was getting \$3,500 when in fact he was getting \$4,000, and you intended to raise him to \$5,000. The only reason I have not included him is this: All of this deals with scientific men with the exception of the librarian, who is a scientific woman really, in that she is able to make the resources of the library available to the scientific men. I did not put any in this list except those engaged in scientific work.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Zappone is well known to the members of this committee and I think every one would agree that he is a very valuable man.

Secretary WALLACE. Yes. The only reason I did not include him was I wanted to confine it to our scientific staff, but if you are willing to do that, I should be very glad to have you do it.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you say \$4,500 or \$5,000?

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. Would not the Chief of the Division of Accounts and Disbursements come in for an increase of salary under the first paragraph?

Secretary WALLACE. No; he would not.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. That deals only with scientific men?

Secretary WALLACE. Yes.

Mr. PURNELL. What is the recommendation there for the Chief of the Bureau of Roads.

Secretary WALLACE. \$6,500.

Mr. TINCHER. Do you classify the attorneys in the department as scientific men?

Secretary WALLACE. Well, no; the solicitor would not be classified as a scientific man.

Mr. TINCHER. He is in that list and what is your limit on the solicitor.

Secretary WALLACE. \$6,500.

Mr. TINCHER. I do not want to be a faultfinder, and I do not know just what their status is in the department, but it seems to me that the attorneys in the Department of Agriculture, who have to fight the Armour attorneys and who have to fight the packers generally and the grain exchange attorneys, and who work in the department all day and in some library almost all night and also on Sundays, are really as competent lawyers and better than any attorney I know of in the Shipping Board getting \$35,000, and it seems to me that they ought to receive more than \$5,000, and the fact that they are modest and too decent to come down here and ask for it ought not to keep them from having it.

Mr. GERNERD. I agree with you.

Secretary WALLACE. We have a group of very competent lawyers there.

Mr. TINCHER. I know some of them.

Secretary WALLACE. All of whom, it seems to me, are underpaid with relation to the payment of similar men in other work.

Mr. TINCHER. They have to deal with the best lawyers in the world.

Secretary WALLACE. They come in contact with the topnotch lawyers in the outside world.

Mr. GERNERD. Why not remedy that situation right now?

The CHAIRMAN. You suggest an advance to \$6,500—how much of an increase is that?

Mr. TINCHER. Only \$1,500.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. Mr. Secretary, we wish to know just what you think about this matter, and this often occurs, that a gentleman like yourself will come before the committee and make suggestions and requests, and then we later learn that he is not entirely satisfied, but has asked for what he thinks he can get and not what he thinks he ought to have. That results in his going later to the Senate committee and asking for more than he asked from this committee. We would like to know, or I would, anyway, if this is what you think is right or whether you are asking for something less than you think is right because you think you can not get any more?

Secretary WALLACE. Well, I suppose, Mr. McLaughlin, that I am animated by both motives. If this was my business and I had a free hand, I would, in some of these places, pay more money than I am asking you to pay. I recognize the difficulties in carrying on Government work and in securing Government salaries, and I suppose I try to adjust myself to the situation on both sides. Let me say this, Mr. McLaughlin, that I have been just as frank and just as free in my dealings with this committee as I have been with any other committee, whether in the Senate or in the House; that is, I regard this committee as the committee which has the job of foster-

ing the Department of Agriculture and taking care of its needs, and I have felt that the members of this committee have been thoroughly sympathetic toward the department and toward myself, and I have appreciated it very much. Now, I do not want anyone to get the idea I am coming to you and not being perfectly frank and am then going to the Senate and ask for something else, because I am not going to do that.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. I hope you will not put that interpretation on what I have said.

Secretary WALLACE. No; I understand that.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN of Michigan. I speak as I do because in my experience there has been considerable confusion, and sometimes ill feeling between this committee and the similar committee in the Senate, and I think in this instance it could be avoided if we know just what you would like and what your opinion is, if you could have your way about it. We may not be able to agree with you but we would like to know just what you want.

Secretary WALLACE. Well, I have presented to you gentlemen what I would like and what I think will meet our needs for this coming year.

The CHAIRMAN. Did I understand you to say then that it would be all right to put in \$5,000 instead of \$4,000 for the Chief of the Division of Accounts and Disbursements, or \$4,500?

Secretary WALLACE. If you feel so disposed and will increase that to \$4,500, I think that will be satisfactory.

The CHAIRMAN. How about section 3 of the bill? Is that satisfactory to you?

Mr. ASWELL. Before you leave the other point, it is clear that some of the members of the committee are anxious now to know whether, if you get substantially what you ask for here, will you go to the Senate and try to boost it a little more?

Secretary WALLACE. No; I will not. I have not done that sort of thing.

Mr. ASWELL. That is what they are asking you.

The CHAIRMAN. How about section 3?

Secretary WALLACE. Now, just a moment before we pass this, if you please, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Just make your statement in your own way as to just what you have in mind.

Secretary WALLACE. Section 3 is entirely satisfactory to us.

Mr. JONES. That has been carried in the appropriation bill for some time?

Secretary WALLACE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. But it was not made permanent, and what you want is to have that made permanent law?

Secretary WALLACE. Yes; there is just one other matter I would like to ask and that is this: You will find in that proposed change following the setting out of the salaries of these various people this proviso:

"That during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, the Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized, in his discretion, and if he deems it necessary or expedient, to pay, from the lump-fund appropriations made in the Agricultural appropriation act for said fiscal year, the additional amounts required over the salaries provided by said act to carry into effect the rates specified by this section."

That is, if you authorize us to increase the salaries in these statutory positions, I would like you to authorize us also to make that increase effective beginning July 1. It does not involve any additional appropriation at all.

Mr. TINCHER. I move you, Mr. Chairman, that the chairman offer as committee amendments on the floor of the House, when House bill 10819 comes up, the amendments this day suggested by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you accept as an amendment to the motion an increase for the Chief of the Division of Accounts, Mr. Zappone, to \$4,500?

Mr. TINCHER. Yes.

(The motion as amended prevailed.)

Secretary WALLACE. Thank you very much, gentlemen.

There is one other matter I would like to have you act upon if you feel so disposed. Mr. Hudspeth introduced a resolution which is preceded by several "whereases" with regard to our extension work. The first of those indicated that we had discharged a number of people without cause.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, that matter was called to the attention of the committee yesterday and Doctor Aswell requested that a week's time be granted to Mr. Hudspeth to submit the evidence.

Mr. ASWELL. And Mr. Hudspeth told me this morning that he had written on to that effect and would have the information within a week.

Secretary WALLACE. That is all right. The only point was that I would like to get that matter cleared up.

Mr. ASWELL. He said he would have to hear from Texas before he was ready.

Secretary WALLACE. Well, thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Secretary, we have a resolution here which has to be acted on within seven days, Resolution No. 502, "That the Secretary of Agriculture be, and he is hereby, directed to transmit to the House of Representatives all reports, letters, or communications bearing on the subject of handling wheat and other grain in elevators at the terminal markets of Minnesota and North Dakota, particularly as to the operation of so-called 'mixing houses' and 'hospital elevators' and the amount of each grade that goes in as compared with the amount that goes out of such elevators and houses now in his possession and made by John Lee Coulter and L. A. Fitz, agents of said department, during the years 1921 and 1922."

Secretary WALLACE. I will be glad to transmit anything you wish on that matter.

The CHAIRMAN. Very well; thank you very much.

Secretary WALLACE. Anything you ask me to send to you I will be glad to transmit.

Mr. JONES. What does that cover, Mr. Chairman?

Secretary WALLACE. It covers the reports made by Messrs. Fitz and Coulter last year in their investigation of the grain grades. I may say this to you, that while I will be perfectly pleased to do that, I would transmit at the same time the effect which that proposed plan would make in its practical working out; and we have made a very complete study of that, and the effect will not be what had been supposed. I think it will result in simply adding a great mass of additional detail to that question without helping you to solve it; but if you wish it, I will be glad to send it.

The CHAIRMAN. Under the rules, the committee would have to report back to the House inside of seven days, otherwise it is privileged and can be called up, and I simply wanted to call your attention to it.

Mr. JONES. It could be called up on a motion to discharge.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes; it could be called up after seven days.

Secretary WALLACE. What it does is simply to reopen that whole question of grain grading, which we have struggled with so much.

Mr. JONES. It occurs to me that that is putting the department to a lot of trouble.

Mr. TINCER. Let us decide the matter right now. I move to lay this resolution on the table. The committee is fully advised on this proposition.

Mr. CLAGUE. I think Mr. Steenerson ought to be heard before that is done.

Mr. TINCER. All right; we will hear him.

Secretary WALLACE. I am entirely at your service, either way.

Mr. McLAUGHLIN, of Michigan. If the Secretary without inconvenience can make the report, and if he can give us, as he says, the effect of how the law is working now and what the effect of the resolution would be, I do not see any objection.

Mr. TINCER. Then let us report it out.

The CHAIRMAN. I think every resolution should be given some consideration by the committee. This one as a matter of courtesy to the Secretary and a matter of courtesy to Mr. Steenerson and to everybody concerned.

Mr. SINCLAIR. Mr. Steenerson has given a great deal of consideration to this matter and it is a very vital matter up in his district and in my district also, and we want the information.

Mr. JONES. What I was getting at was that it would perhaps be a great deal of trouble and bother to get up the information, and in view of the hearings we have had I wondered if it was worth while.

Secretary WALLACE. We will gladly transmit the information if you would like to have it.

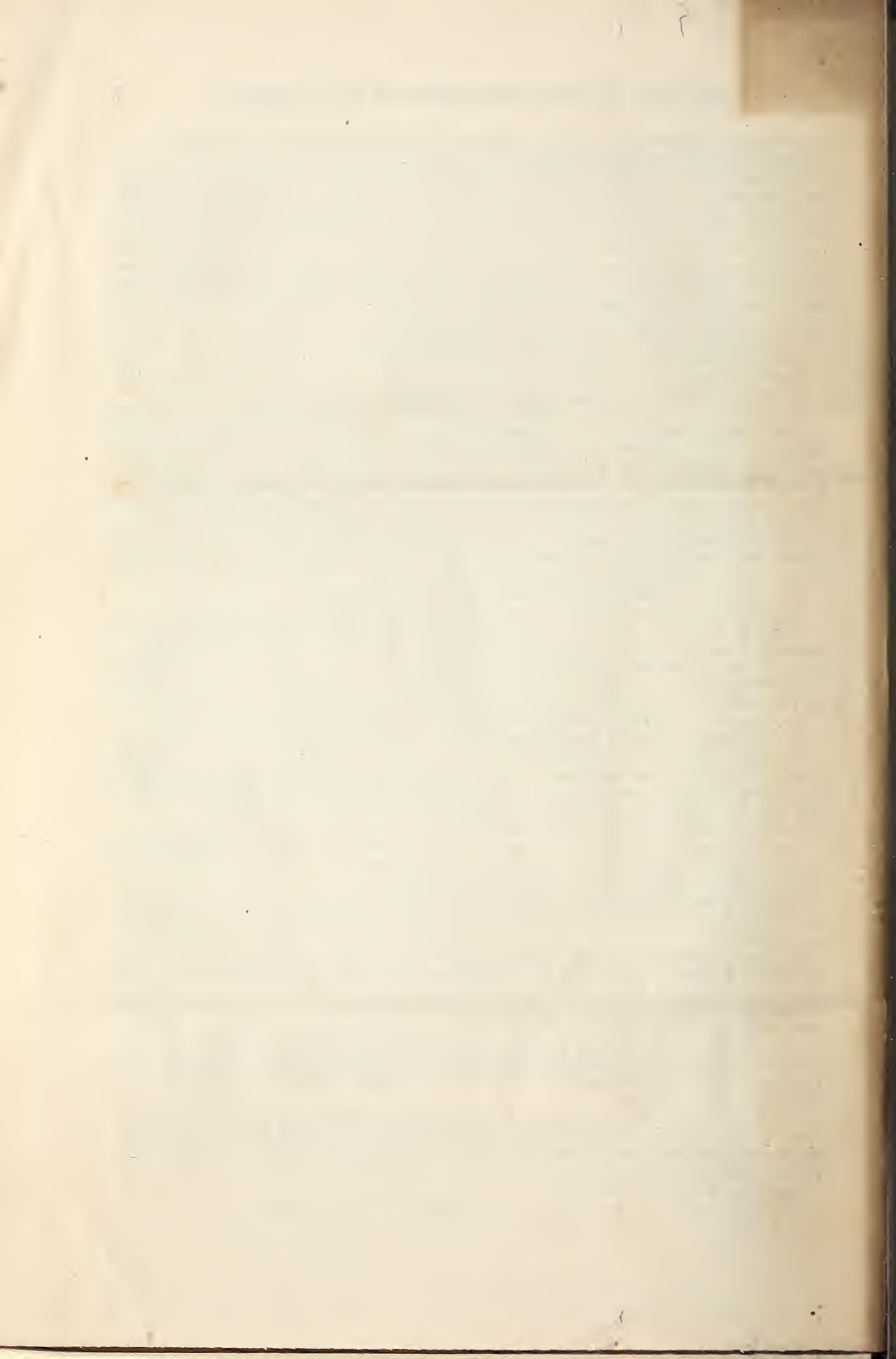
Mr. SINCLAIR. I think that would be the more satisfactory thing to do.

Secretary WALLACE. If sometime within the next two or three weeks you have the time to give another session to that matter, we will be pleased to come over and go into it again with you.

Mr. KINCHELOE. Mr. Secretary, for the purpose of the record, and for use on the floor, I would like to ask you this question. If I understand you, these amendments we have reported out to this salary bill are perfectly satisfactory to you and to the Department of Agriculture?

Secretary WALLACE. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. We are very much obliged to you, Mr. Secretary.



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